

## SUBMISSION – VETERANS MEMORIAL PARKWAY NOISE IMPROVEMENT

I would first like to advise you that the Notice of Public Participation Meeting was somewhat less than timely. I was away and didn't get my letter until Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> and my fellow residents at 217 Martinet Avenue did not receive the notice until Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Submissions are required Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. This leaves an inadequate amount of time to respond as many people are away from the property on the weekend.

Also, I note that our property at 217 Martinet Avenue is not included in the locations that the report recommended for noise improvement. Of the 3 townhouse complexes between Admiral Drive and Trafalgar Street, units on the east side of our property are closer to the roadway than any of the other two. I fail to understand why 126 Bonaventure is on the list. Bonaventure Drive is nearly the equivalent of 2 blocks from VMP. Our property is not directly on the street, but off it and extending back from the street, running east to VMP. You must then take into consideration, the distance from VMP to Martinet Avenue and then the block from Martinet Avenue to Bonaventure Drive. Our complex is right next to VMP. Nothing on Bonaventure is.

When the first meetings to discuss expansion of the roadway to 4 lanes were conducted at Bonaventure Public School, Justin Lawrence told us that a Noise Reduction Wall would be provided. He has since denied that. At the time, he said that since a wall was constructed for the residents of Cheapside St. when that street was extended, there would certainly be a need beside a 4 lane highway, a highway that he said was primarily constructed for truck traffic. Roger Caranci who was a Councillor at the time, also expressed an opinion that there would be a need for such noise abatement as did Bud Polhill. I submit that if the City wasn't constructing noise walls for two lane roads that do not carry anywhere near the amount of traffic as the VMP, they could have provide one along the VMP long ago. We are left to wonder about the logic being applied here.

There was a very brief sound level study conducted on our property last summer - some equipment parked on a resident's deck for a very short period of time, and at a time that was not the noisiest part of the day. No such study was needed – what was needed was some actual humans from City Hall to come and sit on my deck for a few hours, while at the same time attempt to carry on a conversation. We have never been advised of the results of that study but it would be impossible for it to indicate an acceptable level of noise.

City Hall to date has been and continue to be totally insensitive to the problem we have on the stretch of VMP in regard to traffic noise. People who have never been anywhere near here are the decision-makers. It is not unreasonable on our part to have an expectation of living here in comfort and enjoyment of our homes. Like everyone else, each year we look forward to the spring and summer, but are quickly reminded that due to the traffic noise levels, we will not be able to open our windows or sit on our front porches or rear decks and carry on a conversation with friends or neighbours. Indeed, there is significant noise even with doors and windows closed. In most weekends in the summer, there are motorcycles racing up and down, seemingly without benefit of mufflers. We do not believe we are asking for something unreasonable, but only to be able to enjoy our properties as others in the city do.

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Quiet streets get noise abatement structures but if you live on a four lane highway, you don't. Please think about that and try to explain the logic. Politicians wonder why people are so cynical of them. Here is a prime example. They don't want to construct a wall for whatever reason, so they just brush us off with "it's fine the way it is – noise? What noise?" I suspect these are the same people who have never visited these properties.

With respect, I submit that having to endure these conditions is ridiculous. Think about all the walls constructed in quieter neighbourhoods and ask yourself, seriously ask yourself, why noise abatement isn't needed along a four lane highway which will only get busier and noisier as time goes by.

Sincerely,

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P.S. The next politician who tells me I should move will really get an earful. People are having a difficult time selling here as would-be buyers say they would not be able to tolerate the noise.